

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A developing device comprising:

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;
a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member; and

a removing member that removes a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a removing device that removes the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the removing member, the removing device being arranged to contact the removing member, wherein

the developer-carrying member rotates in a rotational direction such that the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member moves vertically downward; and

the removing member is positioned vertically above the supplying member and upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member.

2. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while in contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member.

3. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein a bias is applied to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member to the removing member, wherein the removing member is formed of a conductive material.

4. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein the removing member rotates and has a peripheral surface, and a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the removing member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

5. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein:
the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member;
a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

6. (Original) The developing device according to claim 5, wherein the supplying member is formed of a conductive material, and the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential.

7. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein:
the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member;
a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3;
the supplying member is formed of a conductive material;

the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential; and

a bias is applied to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

8. (Original) The developing device according to claim 1, further comprising a thickness-regulating member that is disposed downstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member, the thickness-regulating member regulates a thickness of the charged-nonmagnetic single-component developer carried on the developer-carrying member.

9. (Currently Amended) A developing device comprising:
a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;
a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member; and

a removing member that removes a nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a removing device that removes the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the removing member, the removing device being arranged to contact the removing member, wherein

the removing member is positioned upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the

peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while in contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member.

10. (Original) The developing device according to claim 9, wherein the removing member is formed of a conductive material, and a bias is applied to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the developer-carrying member to the removing member.

11. (Original) The developing device according to claim 9, wherein a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the removing member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

12. (Original) The developing device according to claim 9, wherein the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member, and a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

13. (Original) The developing device according to claim 12, wherein the supplying member is formed of a conductive material, and the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential.

14. (Original) The developing device according to claim 9, wherein:

the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member;

a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3;

the supplying member is formed of a conductive material;

the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential; and

a bias is applied to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

15. (Currently Amended) The developing device accordinga0eording to claim 9, further comprising a thickness-regulating member that is disposed downstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member, the thickness-regulating member regulating a thickness of a developer carried on the developer-carrying member.

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
an image-carrying member;
a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of the image-carrying member;
a supplying member, formed of a conductive material, that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;
a removing member, formed of a conductive material, that removes a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member;

a removing device that removes the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the removing member, the removing device being arranged to contact the removing member; and

a power source; wherein

the developer-carrying member rotates in a rotational direction such that the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member moves vertically downward;

the removing member is positioned vertically above the supplying member and upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

a bias is applied by the power source to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member to the removing member, and

a bias is applied by the power source to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image-carrying member;

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of the image-carrying member;

a supplying member, formed of a conductive material, that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;

a removing member, formed of a conductive material, that removes a nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a removing device that removes the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the removing member, the removing device being arranged to contact the removing member; and

_____ a power source, wherein

the removing member is positioned upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while in contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member;

the power source applies a bias to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the developer-carrying member to the removing member; and

the power source applies a bias to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

18. (New) The developing device according to claim 1, wherein the removing device is a blade that scrapes off the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer.

19. (New) The developing device according to claim 9, wherein the removing device is a blade that scrapes off the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer.

20. (New) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the removing device is a blade that scrapes off the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer.

21. (New) A developing device comprising:

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;

a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;

a removing member that removes a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a thickness-regulating member that regulates a developer into a uniform thin layer; wherein

the developer-carrying member rotates in a rotational direction such that the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member moves vertically downward;

the supplying roller is positioned upstream of the thickness-regulating member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

the removing member is positioned vertically above the supplying member, the removing member is positioned upstream of the supplying member and upstream of the thickness-regulating member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member; and

the thickness-regulating member is positioned below the developer-carrying member.

22. (New) A developing device comprising:

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;

a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;

a removing member that removes a nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a thickness-regulating member that regulates a developer into a uniform thin layer, wherein

the supplying member is positioned upstream of the thickness-regulating member in the rotational direction of the developing-carrying member;

the removing member is positioned upstream of the supplying member and upstream of the thickness-regulating member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while the contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member;

the thickness-regulating member is positioned below the developer-carrying member.